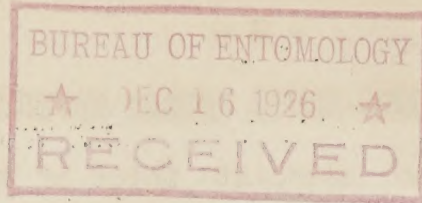


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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

On November 8 K. L. Cockerham, Biloxi, Miss., and B. P. Livingston, of the Alabama State Department of Agriculture, appeared before the County Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Ala., and made a progress report on the work of eradicating the sweet potato weevil in that county. One year ago this Board appropriated \$1,800 to assist in surveying the county and getting the weevil under control. During the year the actively infested farms have been reduced from 62 to 2, an accomplishment which seemed highly pleasing to the Board. All concerned seem to agree that vigorous and timely work really saved the sweet potato crop in Baldwin County.

Mr. Cockerham and his inspectors, Messrs. Deen, Harrison, Thompson, and Wright, attended the conference of the Mississippi State Plant Board Inspectors at A. & M. College, Miss., November 26 and 27. Those present discussed the results of the eradication campaign against the sweet potato weevil, conducted cooperatively by the State and Federal workers, and made plans for further activity.

E. W. Davis, in charge of the Toppenish, Wash., sugar-beet leafhopper substation, has been transferred to the Twin Falls, Idaho, laboratory, effective October 28.

L. W. Brannon, in charge of the Birmingham, Ala., Mexican bean beetle substation, has been temporarily transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board, effective November 16.

Wallace Colman, of the Columbus, Ohio, Mexican bean beetle laboratory, has been granted leave without pay to finish at the Ohio State University his requirements for a doctorate.

The temporary appointment of E. K. Bynum, Gulfport, Miss., has been terminated, effective November 9.

C. H. Griffith has been appointed junior entomologist, at Twin Falls, Idaho, effective December 1.

S. E. Crumb, of the Clarksville, Tenn., tobacco-insects laboratory, came to Washington November 22 and is temporarily engaged here in taxonomic work.

DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of Bureau, in Charge

Dr. F. H. Lathrop, in charge of Blueberry Maggot Investigations, with headquarters in Cherryfield, Me., and his associate, C. B. Nickels, were in Washington at the end of November, summarizing the results of experimental work during the past season.

Oliver I. Snapp addressed a mass meeting of Georgia peach growers at Macon, Ga., on November 16. This meeting was sponsored by the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange, looking to a solution of the serious problem brought about by an overproduction of peaches in that state.

TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Entomologist, in Charge

Harold S. Peters, of the Virginia Truck Crop Experiment Station, spent Thanksgiving at the Division of Insects, working on the Mallophaga. Mr. Peters is located at a branch station at Onley, on the Virginia Peninsula.

Carl Heinrich left on Thanksgiving Day for Boston, where he will work in the Gipsy Moth Laboratory at Melrose Highlands, classifying and naming the Lepidoptera which have been reared there. Species which can not be identified without the use of the collections will be brought to the Museum for more detailed study. Mr. Heinrich will also stop in New York City, to examine types in the American Museum of Natural History.

A subterrestrial chrysomelid larva, probably Typophorus viridicyaneus (Cr.), has been received for the first time from a North American locality. It is reported as feeding on the roots of sweet potatoes. A short paper was read by Dr. Böving at the November meeting of the Entomological Society of Washington, dealing with the anatomy and taxonomy of the larvae of the subfamily Eumolpinae, to which this specimen belongs, and particularly the characters were mentioned by which this new destructive larva can be recognized.

Dr. Arthur Gibson, Dominion Entomologist of Canada, was a visitor to the Division of Insects on the 18th and 19th of November.

Dr. C. P. Gillette, Director of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, visited the Division of Insects on November 19.

Dr. F. A. Fenton, of Connecticut, spent November 16 to 18 in the Taxonomic Division, working on homopterous parasites of the family Dryinidae, and while here completed a paper containing descriptions of a number of species new to the Museum.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. H. Larrimer, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Importations of European corn borer parasites for this winter are well under way. More than 45,000 cocoons of Microgaster tibialis Nees have been collected in northern France, and some 84,000 borers are on hand from which four species of parasites may be reared.

Donald S. LaCroix, a graduate of Massachusetts Agricultural College, has been given a probationary appointment as Junior Entomologist, for duty on Corn Borer Investigations at Sandusky, Ohio.

Prof. G. W. McCuen and E. A. Silver, of Ohio State University, L. E. Thatcher and John McClure, of the Ohio Experiment Station, Dr. C. R. Neiswander, E. G. Kelsheimer, and J. B. Polivka, of the Ohio Corn Borer Laboratory, and Maurice R. Myers, County Extension Agent for Erie County, Ohio, called at the Sandusky Laboratory November 23, to observe the field operation of the combination corn harvester, husker, and shredder, being developed for the fight against the corn borer.

George I. Reeves, in charge of the Salt Lake City Laboratory, visited Washington in the latter part of November for consultation and library work relating to a new Farmers' Bulletin on the alfalfa weevil. This work will continue for a few days in December.

Dr. G. I. Christie, Director of the Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette, Ind., was in Washington during the week of November 15, and called at this office to confer on the program for corn borer control.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, in Charge

Prof. E. F. Phillips, of Cornell University, was a visitor at the Bee Culture Laboratory early in November.

E. L. Sechrist spent November 4 and 5 in New York City, to instruct the Inspection Service there, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in the use of the new honey-grading regulations.

The new Intermountain Bee-Culture Field Station at Laramie, Wyo., is quartered temporarily in the office of the Department of Entomology of the University of Wyoming. The University will furnish independent quarters after the beginning of next year.

The tunnels of the bee house, Braula coeca, were discovered in capped honey in October at the Bee Culture Laboratory, at Somerset, Md., by W. J. Nolan. An infestation of Braula coeca had already been discovered by V. N. Argo in an apiary at College Park, Md., in 1925. Mr. Argo was temporarily employed by this office during the spring and early summer of 1926 to investigate the life history of this organism. These two places are the most southern points at which Braula coeca has thus far been authentically reported in the United States.

FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

On October 29 R. A. St. George visited the firm of Carl Stossel and Sons, located at Front Royal, Va., to bring to a close an experiment relative to the submergence of hickory, oak, and ash wood in water, to prevent subsequent attack by *Lyctus* powder-post beetles. By following practices recommended by this Bureau, this firm, which makes mallets, mauls, etc., has in the past three years been able to reduce insect injury caused to green and seasoned stock from its former magnitude of 15 to 90 per cent to only 1 or 2 per cent.

November 8 to 11 William Middleton visited the Willow Grove laboratory of the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Plant Industry, to confer with Mr. Floyd Smith on experimental work for the control of the box leaf miner. Fumigated plots of box belonging to the Andorra Nursery were examined, and more experiments were outlined.

JAPANESE BEETLE INVESTIGATIONS

Loren B. Smith, Entomologist, in Charge

A new Japanese Beetle quarantine office was recently opened at 42 West First Street, Mount Vernon, N. J. This office supervises matters relating to the recent extension of the regulated area in New York and Connecticut.

H. A. Jaynes and T. R. Gardner have left their respective stations in China and Japan and are now en route to this country. Both Mr. Jaynes and Mr. Gardner were formerly stationed at the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, and have been in foreign service for the past three years, engaged in collecting and shipping parasites of the Japanese beetle to this country. Mr. Jaynes is expected at Riverton after the beginning of the year, and Mr. Gardner will probably arrive early in December.

R. J. Sim, of the Japanese Beetle Laboratory staff, recently inspected a conifer nursery in Rhode Island which showed a heavy infestation of scarabaeid grubs. These proved to be a *Phyllophaga* species, the adults of which have been attracted in great numbers to this locality by the lights of a near-by house which was some distance away from any other habitation.

Large shipments of pinned insects collected in China by H. A. Jaynes have been arriving at the Japanese Beetle Laboratory for the past several weeks. Many undescribed species are included in the collection.

F. H. Worsinger, Agent, who has been in charge of the treatment work in connection with the enforcement of the Japanese beetle quarantine for the past year, recently resigned to assume charge of a nursery near Holmesburg, Pa.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

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- Hall, W. J.
Notes on the Aphididae of Egypt. 62 p., 3 pl. Government Press, Cairo, 1926. (Egypt. Ministry of Agriculture Tech. & Sci. Service Bul. 68.) (A list of the more important works consulted, p. 49-50.)
- Hampson, G. F.
Descriptions of new genera and species of the subfamily Noctuinae [Noctuidae] in the British Museum (Natural history). 641 p. Printed by order of the trustees of the British Museum, London, April 24, 1926.
- Hering, Martin.
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